

"WETS" BEGIN FIGHT TODAY

Rhode Island to Attack Dry Law Constitutionality in Supreme Court.

Federal prohibition legislation will be challenged on its constitutionality and validity from many angles in the Supreme Court of the United States, beginning late today and continuing over until tomorrow.

The court is called on by the Department of Justice, representing the Government, to decide whether issues raised in contests of the constitutionality of the national prohibition amendment by the State of Rhode Island and in other suits are judicially and within the jurisdiction of the court or whether they are political and not subject to review by the court.

Solicitor General King takes the latter view in a brief filed with the court in opposition to attacks on the constitutionality of the prohibition amendment and has moved the dismissal of the Rhode Island case on this ground. The court will hear arguments on this point by the solicitor general and by Attorney General Rice, of Rhode Island, this afternoon, after arguments are concluded on a case continued over from Friday last.

Want Hearings Advanced.
At the opening of the hearing on the Rhode Island case the Supreme Court will be asked by Attorney General McCran, of New Jersey, which State has presented an original complaint against the prohibition amendment and the Volstead Enforcement Act; William Marshall Bell, of Chicago, representing the Kentucky Distilleries and Warehouse Company, and attorneys for George C. Dempsey, a Massachusetts liquor dealer, to advance hearings in their complaints and join their cases with that of Rhode Island.

There is pending, also, in the court a suit from Ohio attacking the constitutionality of the Ohio referendum laws, which has a bearing on both the constitutionality of the Prohibition Amendment and on other State referendum laws. This case likewise may be advanced and its issues decided by the court along with the general

Dry Questions Which Supreme Court Was Asked Today To Decide

Here are some of the questions the Supreme Court was asked to decide today, when it heard arguments in suits seeking overthrow of national prohibition:

- Can a State be made dry by the Federal Government when its own citizens want it to be wet?
- Has Congress or the State legislatures the power to fix the legal alcoholic content of beverages?
- Can a State withdraw, by referendum, approval of the constitutional amendment expressed by its legislature?
- Was the prohibition amendment passed by Congress for submission to the States in a constitutional manner?
- Where State or Federal laws conflict on definite intoxicants, which is to hold?
- Is the Volstead enforcement act constitutional?
- Can the Federal Government exercise police power within a State?
- Must the Government compensate owners of stocks of liquor?
- Must a proposal for amending the Constitution be passed by two-thirds of the members of the House, or can it be passed by two-thirds of those present?

questions raised under the Rhode Island case.

Elhu Root, acting as one of counsel for the United Brewers' Association, filed a brief today attacking the prohibition amendment as unconstitutional by three-fourths of the States, and contending that questions raised as to its constitutionality are justifiable.

Would File Brief.
Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the Anti-Saloon League, made application to file a brief in the Kentucky and Massachusetts cases.

The brief set forth that the Eighteenth amendment was legally submitted by Congress to the States for rejection or ratification; that the people of a State cannot reserve power to act in the matter of ratification of a Federal amendment without further amending the Federal Constitution; that the ratification of an amendment to the Constitution is a legislative act and cannot be subject to a referendum; that concurrent power to enforce the Eighteenth amendment by appropriate legislation authorizes both State and nation to enact prohibition laws, but no license or permissive laws; that a State prohibition code may contain more drastic provisions than the Federal code, but such State enactments cannot permit what the Federal act prohibits; that in case of conflict between the Federal and State laws, the courts are bound to support the authorized Federal statutes as supreme law; that Congress has the power to enact a prohibition code and that all the provisions of the Federal code have a reasonable relation to the enforcement of the law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes and are constitutional.

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CLERGY ASK TURKEY BE SHORN OF POWER

Appeal to President to Use Influence in Delivering Christians From Moslems.

An appeal to the President for him to "exercise all possible influence to remove the Sultan forever from governmental control of any part of Europe, and deliver Christian peoples from Turkish rule," was made at the White House today by Rev. Dr. Han-dolph H. McKim, rector of the Church of Epiphany, who left a petition signed by hundreds of American clergymen and churchmen.

The petition is in protest against the proposal of the French and British governments to let the Turk remain in Europe. Among the signers of the appeal to the President are Bishop Charles H. Brent, the Very Rev. H. C. Robbins, the Rt. Rev. Charles S. MacFarland, the Rev. W. T. Manning, the Rev. Charles L. Slater, the Rev. H. L. Coffin, the Rev. A. C. Gifford and the Rev. Mendenhall, of New York, and the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Garland, the Rev. Floyd W. Thompson and the Rev. R. P. M. Rhineland, all of Philadelphia.

About a dozen signers each represent Boston, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Seattle, Brooklyn, and Los Angeles.

The text of the resolution follows: "Whereas it is unofficially reported that despite incompetence to rule subject peoples and frequently broken international pledges, the Sultan is to remain in Europe and deliver Christian peoples from Turkish rule, it is hereby

BRITISH LORDS BLAMED FOR IRELAND'S PLIGHT

Congressman Mead Asserts Freedom's Impossible While Nobility Remain in Power.

Declaring that Ireland would never obtain her freedom as long as British lords remained in power, Congressman James M. Mead, of New York, in an address before a large gathering of the Friends of Irish Freedom last night at 601 E street northwest, bitterly attacked the leaders of the British empire and predicted their fall in the very near future.

"We were cheated with an English League of Nations, devised to make tyranny secure, when we fought for an American document that would recognize the principle of self-determination," said the Congressman.

Congressman Mead made a plea for the purchase of Irish bonds, and he bestowed glowing praise upon Eamon De Valera, president of the Irish republic, and upon Robert Emmett, the Irish patriot whose birthday was celebrated last night.

Mrs. Mary McWhorter, of Chicago, president of the ladies' auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, sketched the life of Robert Emmett, and said that the time was not far distant when his epitaph should be written in compliance with his last request. Mrs. McWhorter also glorified Ann Devlin and several other Irish women, whose love for Ireland caused them to give up their all for the cause, and she advised the Irish women of today to choose such women as examples.

DISCUSSES GOOD OLD DAYS.

Discussing "The Good Old Days" at a meeting of the Secular League in Pythian Temple last evening, George A. Warren declared that in every age there have been those who look back to an earlier period as a golden age. He also declared that many people forget that most of their charm grew out of the spirit of youth.

MISS HOPE HAMPTON and her dog "Bob," snapped aboard the Imperator, arriving at New York recently. Miss Hampton was quite a favorite aboard the big vessel during the voyage and won first prize at a costume ball held aboard ship. She is here to appear in American movie productions.



Photo by INTERNATIONAL

FATHER, 132, RESCUES SON, 6, FROM RELATIVES

Oldest Man in World Shoulders Flintlock, Mounts Mule and Brings Boy Home Again.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 8.—John Schell, 132 years old, the oldest man being in the world, has lost none of the spirit which has carried him through the years.

News reached here today from the Schell home in Leslie county that he has just frustrated an attempt to deprive him of his six-year-old son. Schell returned after a short absence and found his wife in the yard, dying. Her relatives took charge of the funeral arrangements and after the burial her father, George Chappell, took Schell's son, saying the boy hereafter must live with the Chappells. Schell protested, but Chappell took the boy away.

Schell secured his flintlock rifle, which he himself made over a century ago, and mounting his mule, went in pursuit. He overtook Chappell and with his gun forced Chappell to give the boy up. Schell then took his boy home. Schell is in good health, despite his great age, and is hard-boiled with it.

WAR CONVICTION UPHELD.

The Supreme Court today affirmed the decision of the district court of northern New York, in which conviction was had of Clinton Pierce and others of conspiring to obstruct the United States in conduct of the war through publication discriminated in Albany, N. Y., and of violations of the espionage act.

POLES TALK PEACE AS WAR THREATENS

Border States Menaced by Red Armies While Drafting Reply to Russian Note.

WARSAW, Russia, March 8.—With reports arriving that the Bolsheviks have opened an offensive against the Polish forces in the Pripiet region, and that Bolshevik and German troops are massing for an invasion of Lithuania, the formal conference of the border states, to frame an answer to the Russian peace proposals, begins under inauspicious circumstances here today.

The border states' representatives have been eager to reach an early decision on the proposals, because of the approach of spring, when the long-heralded Russian drive against them is due. Many see in the present reports an indication that the proposals were a bluff, and that the Red campaign has begun. This possibility had been foreseen, and the preliminary meetings of the conference have been devoted to plans for defense, should the peace negotiations fall through.

The report from the Pripiet region says the Poles repulsed the Reds with heavy losses. This news arrived at the same time as another report from Helsingfors, Finland, that the White troops in the Murman district have penetrated the lines of the Bolsheviks, and are advancing on the town of Repola. The invasion of Lithuania, according to a report, is planned on the contention that the recent revolt of the Lithuanian soldiers in the Kovno region necessitates such action. It is said 36,000 German soldiers have been concentrated in East Prussia for this purpose.

ITALIAN FARM LABORERS THREATEN TO WALK OUT

ROME, March 8.—Orders have been issued to farmhands at Piombino, Savona, and Iva to strike immediately upon receipt of word that the union demands have been rejected by employers, according to advices from Naples today.

Palermo dispatches said 3,000 striking sulphur miners had devastated the Traba-Talarita mines, afterward attempting to break into the city hall through the windows. They stoned the building, but were driven off by soldiers. Troops have been dispatched to the district from several points to prevent recurrence of these disorders. Indications today were that the strike would completely paralyze the mining industry in the Iva valley.

In view of the political nature of the strike, land owners have declined to conduct further negotiations and have maintained that they can only be settled by governmental labor body.

Despite drastic military measures, outrages continue throughout the zone in which the strikers are located.

NOMINATION SENT SENATE.

The President sent the following nomination to the Senate this afternoon:

Robert L. Maddox, of Kentucky, to be purchasing agent for the Postoffice Department, vice Edgerton, resigned.

PROTEST "PRUNING."

Protest against the pruning of agricultural appropriations was received today by members of the House from the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers.

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WILSON'S ADRIATIC VIEWS UP TO ALLIES

French and British Premier Hold Power to Accept or Reject Fiume Proposal.

The Adriatic controversy today rests on whether the French and British premiers are willing to accept President Wilson's views. This was the belief here with publication today of the President's last note to the Adriatic question to the allies.

President Wilson's firm stance against the London treaty is believed here to leave the only way for settlement to the proposed direct negotiations between Italy and Jugoslavia. Should this conference fail, it is generally admitted that the results would be grave, but there is high optimism for the success of the proposed conference.

It is expected here that the French and British premiers will make reply to President Wilson's views. They will arrange for those nations to meet with this Government in a call for direct conference between the two countries at odds on the Adriatic question.

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COMMUNITY CENTERS WILL BE BUSY TONIGHT

The gymnasium of the East Washington Community Center will have a rehearsal of the orchestra and a meeting of the Monday Evening Club tonight.

Tuesday evening there will be the regular meeting of the Park View Citizens' Association at the center at 8 o'clock.

Dressmaking, Spanish and French for children will be the classes at the Powell Community Center today. The Dramatic Club and the Community Dancing Club will have meetings tonight.

The Criterion Club will hold its weekly dance at the center tonight. The War Risk Insurance Bureau painting class will meet at this center.

The Maryland State Society invites all Maryland people to attend its meeting at the Thomson Community Center tonight.

The Pen and Ink Club will meet Tuesday at the Thomson Community Center.

A meeting of the board of directors of the Wilson Normal Community Center will be held this evening.

The gymnasium of the Wilson Normal Community Center will be used tonight by a group of young women from the War Risk Insurance Bureau.

D. C. RUSSIAN RELIEF TO BOOST MEMBERSHIP

A public mass meeting for the purpose of increasing the membership of the American Central Committee for Russian Relief, will be held at 8 o'clock tomorrow night in the Central High School auditorium, Thirtieth and Clifton streets northwest. Dr. Edward H. Egbert, chief surgeon of the first Red Cross detachment to Russia, will speak on "Russia's Struggle for Liberty." Carl Hugh S. Martin, who was in charge of the American secret service division at allied general headquarters in Archangel, will speak on "The Plain Truth About the Archangel Campaign."